

Appl. No. 10/783,540
Amdt. Dated 8/13/07
Response to Office Action Mailed 3/16/07

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that is at least partly consumable comprising:
a pocket formed from dough, wherein the pocket has a length dimension, a width dimension and a depth dimension, and wherein each of the width dimension and the length dimension is substantially greater in extent than the depth dimension;
a portion of a food stuffing material captured within the pocket; and
a protrusion coupled to the pocket along at least most of a 90 degree segment around a perimeter that extends around the pocket and substantially encompasses the length dimension and the width dimension, wherein the protrusion is capable of being grasped and, when so grasped, the pocket is capable of being supported by the protrusion.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the protrusion is sufficiently large so that it can be grasped by way of a thumb and an index finger.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the protrusion includes a first side surface and a second side surface substantially opposite the first side, and wherein none of the portion of the food stuffing material is positioned in between the first and second side surfaces of the protrusion, and wherein each of the first and side surfaces has a surface area of at least one square centimeter.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the protrusion [[is]] includes dough that is integrally formed as part of the dough forming the pocket.

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6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the protrusion includes two layers of the dough that are pressed together to form a double-layer extension.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein formation of the protrusion includes an additional step of cooking to further enhance the strength of the protrusion.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second protrusion also coupled to the pocket.
9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the protrusion is an extension of at least a portion of a rim about at least a portion of the perimeter circumference of the pocket, and wherein the protrusion is configured for being grasped by a clip.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a clip that grasps the protrusion, wherein the clip further includes a portion that is capable of being grasped by a thumb and an index finger, and wherein the clip effectively forms a portion of the protrusion.
11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a support beam that extends from within an interior of the pocket out beyond a rim of the pocket, and wherein the protrusion includes an outer portion of the support beam extending beyond the interior of the pocket, wherein the support beam is one of a solidified piece of dough and a pretzel.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pocket is generally of the form of ~~one of a pierogi, a ravioli, a pot sticker, a knoodle, a piroshki, and a dumpling.~~

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14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in combination with a food item including a pocket formed from dough and a portion of a food stuffing material captured within the pocket, the pocket having length and width dimensions that are substantially greater than a depth dimension of the pocket; the apparatus comprising:

means for grasping the food item,

wherein the means for grasping is one of removably couplable to the pocket and fixedly coupled to the pocket, and

wherein when the means for grasping the food item is coupled to the food item, the food item can be supported by way of the means for grasping.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the means for grasping includes a protrusion extending from the pocket, wherein the protrusion is formed from a same dough as the pocket is formed from, and wherein the protrusion is integrally formed from the same dough, and wherein the protrusion extends along at least most of an approximately 90 degree section of a perimeter that extends around the pocket generally along the length and width dimensions of the pocket.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein at least one of the following is true:

(a) the means for grasping includes a clip that is removably couplable to one of the pocket and another portion of the means for grasping; and

(b) the means for grasping further includes a protrusion of the dough of the pocket, and wherein the clip is removably couplable to the protrusion.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a pocket-type food item at least in part from a dough so that the pocket-type item is graspable, the method comprising:

providing a sheet of dough;

cutting out a plurality of sections of the dough;

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applying a portion of secondary food material adjacent to at least one of the sections of the dough; and

securing the portion of secondary food material within the at least one section of the dough so that the secondary food material is captured within the at least one section of the dough,

wherein the at least one section of the dough and the secondary food material therein forms at least a portion of the pocket-type item,

wherein at least one of the at least one section of the dough and a secondary portion coupled to the at least one section of the dough includes a protrusion, and

wherein the protrusion is capable of being grasped and, when so grasped, the pocket is capable of being supported by the protrusion.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
forming the protrusion from at least one of:

a portion of the at least one section of the dough while the at least one section of the dough is cut, wherein the protrusion is solidified by way of at least one of frying the protrusion, applying pressure to the protrusion, boiling the protrusion, steaming the protrusion; and

a portion of tertiary food material in contact with the at least one section of the dough.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the protrusions is included as part of the secondary portion, and wherein the secondary portion includes a clasping mechanism.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the protrusion includes four layers of the dough that are pressed together to form a quadruple-layer extension.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pocket is generally of the form of a ravioli.

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23. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the perimeter of the pocket includes an approximately 90 degree curved section, and wherein the protrusion is coupled along substantially all of the curved section, and wherein the length dimension is substantially greater in extent than the width dimension.
24. (New) A food structure comprising:
a pocket formed from dough, wherein the pocket has a length dimension, a width dimension and a depth dimension, wherein the length dimension is substantially greater in extent than the width dimension, and wherein the width dimension is substantially greater in extent than the depth dimension;
a portion of a food stuffing material captured within the pocket; and
a protrusion coupled to the pocket, wherein the protrusion is capable of being grasped and, when so grasped, the pocket is capable of being supported by the protrusion.
25. (New) The food structure of claim 24, wherein the protrusion extends along at least most of a quarter of a perimeter that extends around the pocket and substantially encompasses the length dimension and the width dimension.
26. (New) The food structure of claim 24, wherein the pocket has a substantially semicircular rim portion and wherein the protrusion extends along about half of the semicircular rim portion, the protrusion including at least a portion of dough that would square off the half of the semicircular rim portion.